Appl. No. 10/783,126 Amdt. dated February 17, 2005 Reply to Office Action mailed January 10, 2005

Atty. Docket: <u>2666 CON</u>

(203-2709 CON)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Racenet et al.

EXAMINER: Chukwurah, Nathaniel C.

SERIAL NO.: 10/783,126

GROUP UNIT: 3721

FILED: February 20, 2004

DATED: February 17, 2005

FOR: SURGICAL STAPLING DEVICE

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on January 10, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 17, 2005.

Dated: February 17, 2005

Jephifer Puente